IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to ~~e~~Claim ~~1~~ 22, wherein the rigid~~,~~ planar member is constructed from a material selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ metal alloys, woods, polymeric compositions, and combinations thereof.

3-6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to ~~e~~Claim ~~6~~ 2, further comprising locking means suitable for removably attaching the at least one notched ~~support to the~~ supporting member to the supporting cross member for maintaining the position of the rigid planar member on the supporting cross member ~~chair~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 7, wherein the ~~rigid, planar member~~ metal alloy is ~~fabricated of~~ stainless steel.

9. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 8, wherein the animals ~~is~~ are ~~a~~ non-human primates.

10. (Previously Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 9, wherein a handle is attached to the planar member.

11. (Currently Amended) A safety shield for a restraint chair, comprising: a) a vertically positioned, rigid~~,~~ planar member having first and second surfaces, top and bottom sides, and left and right ends; b) at least one adjustable~~,~~ notched ~~supports~~ member attached to the second surface of the rigid planar member for ~~vertical~~ adjustment thereof, the notched support member being adapted for receiving locking means~~, and wherein the notched support is adapted for removable attachment to a horizontally positioned supporting cross member of a restraint chair~~; c) a supporting cross member of

the chair, wherein the notched support member is adapted for removable attachment to the supporting cross member of the chair; d) clamping means~~,~~ attached to a horizontally positioned supporting cross member of the chair, wherein the clamping means ~~and~~ proximally abuts the notched support member, the clamping means adapted for receiving locking means; and ~~d~~ e) locking means suitable for connecting the at least one adjustable notched support member and ~~the~~ clamping means so as to hold the rigid planar member in a fixed position, wherein the vertically positioned rigid planar member is fabricated from metal alloys, and wherein the safety shield is suitable for protecting laboratory personnel from injury when working with non-human primates.

12. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to e~~C~~laim 11, wherein the rigid~~,~~ planar member is fabricated from a material selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ metals alloys, woods, polymeric compositions~~,~~ ~~or~~ and combinations thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one notched supports member, comprise two vertically attached members positioned proximal close to the left and right ends of the second surface of the ~~shield~~ rigid planar member, each member having an equal number of ~~aligneed~~ aligned notches thereon adapted ~~to~~ for removably ~~fit~~ attaching onto the supporting cross member, wherein a hole through the notched support members is proximally close to each notch, the hole suitable for accepting the locking means.

14. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 13, wherein the clamping means~~,~~ comprise two rectangular brackets attached to the supporting cross member, wherein each bracket has a hole therein that aligns with the holes of the notched supports members, and wherein the brackets are positioned at a distance of about the width of the ~~shield~~ rigid planar member.

15. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 14, wherein the locking means, comprise an elongated rod having first and second ends, wherein a handle

is attached on the first end, and wherein the rod is suitable for removably positioning into the holes of the rectangular brackets and notched supports members.

16. (Original) The safety shield according to Claim 15, wherein the equal number of aligned notches is about three.

17. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 16, wherein the vertically positioned~~,~~ rigid~~,~~ planar member has a horizontally~~,~~ positioned rigid~~,~~ planar member attached at the bottom side ~~thereto~~ thereof, wherein the length of the horizontally positioned rigid planar member extends from the left ~~side~~ to the right ends of the length of the vertically positioned rigid~~,~~ planar member, and the width of the horizontally positioned rigid planar member is ~~proximal to the width of the notched supports~~ of suitable to provide additional protection to a worker.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 21, wherein a handle is attached to the first side ~~thereof~~ of the vertically positioned rigid planar member.

20. (Currently Amended) The safety shield according to Claim 19, wherein the ~~vertical and horizontal rigid, planar members are fabricated of~~ metal alloy is stainless steel.

21. (Currently Amended) A safety shield, adapted for fitting onto an animal restraint chair, comprising: a) a vertically positioned~~,~~ rigid planar member having first and second surfaces, top and bottom sides, and left and right ends; b) two vertically aligned~~,~~ adjustable notched supports members attached proximal to the left and right ends of the second surface of the vertically positioned~~,~~ planar member, each support comprising a plurality of vertically aligned notches, each notched support member having

an equal number of aligned notches thereon and a hole proximate to each notch for receiving locking means; c) a supporting cross member attached to the chair for supporting the ~~shield~~ rigid planar member, wherein the notches of the notched support members removably attach to the supporting cross member; d) two rectangular brackets attached to the supporting cross member, wherein each bracket has a hole therein that aligns with the holes of the notched supports members, wherein the brackets are positioned at a distance proximal to the width of the vertically~~,~~ positioned rigid planar member, and wherein the holes of the brackets are adapted for receiving locking means; e) locking means, comprise an elongated rod having first and second ends, wherein a handle is attached ~~on~~ to the first end of the rod, wherein the second end of the rod is suitable for removably fitting through the holes of the notched supports members and the holes of the brackets to hold the shield in a fixed position on the supporting cross member; and f) a horizontally~~,~~ positioned rigid~~,~~ planar member attached to the bottom side of the vertically ~~,~~ positioned rigid~~,~~ planar member, wherein the length of the horizontally positioned rigid planar member extends from the left end to the right end of the vertically~~,~~ positioned rigid planar member, wherein the width of the horizontally~~,~~ positioned rigid planar member is proximal to the width of the vertically, positioned rigid planar member, wherein the shield is suitable for protecting laboratory personnel from injury when working with non-human primates.

22. (New) A safety shield suitable for attachment to a restraint chair for protecting laboratory personnel from injury when working with non-human primates, comprising:

a rigid planar member adapted for adjustable movement on the chair;

a supporting cross member comprising a cross member of the chair; and

at least one notched support member attached to the rigid planar member, wherein the notched support member comprises a plurality of aligned notches suitable for removably connecting to the supporting cross member and adjusting the position of the rigid planar member on the chair.

23. (New) The shield according to Claim 17, wherein a handle is attached to the first side of the rigid planar member.